

## Message Text

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15

ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 IO-14 PCH-08

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00

CCO-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 ACDA-19 SCS-03 SCA-01 OPR-02 A-01

SY-10 AID-20 EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 INT-08

SCEM-02 SCI-06 USSS-00 OC-06 /249 R

DRAFTED BY METF:GNANDERSON:BDF

APPROVED BY METF:FMDICKMAN

S/S-O - MR. NEWLIN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY SUVA BY POUCH

AMEMBASSY BANJUL BY POUCH

AMCONSUL CURACAO BY POUCH

AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE BY POUCH

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INFORM CONSULS - VIENNA FOR USDEL MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, XF

SUBJ: MIDDLE EAST SITUATION

INFORM CONSULS; KUWAIT POUCH MUSCAT, DOHA

1. FOLLOWING IS MIDDLE EAST SITUATION THROUGH EVENING  
OCTOBER 18.

2. MILITARY SITUATION. LARGE-SCALE BATTLE IN SINAI CON-  
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TINUED AS ISRAELIS WIDENED THEIR BRIDGEHEAD ON WEST BANK

FOLLOWING A PENETRATION THROUGH THE CENTRAL SECTOR. SCANTY INFORMATION FROM CAIRO SUGGESTS GROWING EGYPTIAN DILEMMA AS SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF ISRAELI TANKS NOW ON WEST BANK ARE PRESSING TOWARD SAM AND ARTILLERY DEFENSES WHICH HAVE PROVIDED THICK UMBRELLA FOR EGYPTIAN FORCES EAST OF CANAL. ISRAELIS ARE INCREASINGLY CONFIDENT; THEY SAY THEY HAVE SHATTERED TWO STRONGEST EGYPTIAN DIVISIONS TO REACH CANAL AND HAVE SINCE DECISIVELY BEATEN OFF ALL ATTACKS ON FLANKS OF IDF BRIDGEHEAD. ALTHOUGH IDF CLAIMS EGYPTIANS LOSING THEIR ELAN, THERE PROBABLY FURTHER HEAVY FIGHTING AHEAD.

3. ISRAELI MINDEF DAYAN HAS STATED THAT MAIN ISRAELI PUSH IN SINAI HAS NOT YET OCCURRED, BUT HE PREDICTS AN END TO THE WAR "IN DAYS, NOT MONTHS OR YEARS." MEANWHILE, AN IDF SPOKESMAN SAYS THAT THERE ARE "HUNDREDS" OF FEDAYEEN NOW RAIDING NIGHTLY INTO ISRAEL FROM LEBANON AND HAS IMPLIED THAT AN ISRAELI STRIKE AGAINST LEBANON WILL BE FORTHCOMING, EVEN THOUGH IDF NOT "FREE TO DEAL WITH THEM NOW."

4. IN NAVAL ACTION, IDF REPORTED EGYPTIAN NAVAL RESISTANCE AS IT SHELLED PORT SAID AND ZAFARANA ON RED SEA. ISRAELIS EXPRESS SOME CONCERN, HOWEVER, ABOUT EGYPTIAN SUBMARINES LYING OFF HAIFA AND ASHDOD. EGYPTIAN DESTROYERS BLOCKADING ISRAELI SHIPPING AT ADEN REMAIN ON STATION. IN AIR, IDF HAS ADMITTED LOSING SEVERAL AIRCRAFT IN ATTACKS ON EGYPTIAN SAM SITES.

5. ALTHOUGH THE GOLAN FRONT REMAINS QUIET FOR TIME BEING, IDF CLAIMS ENOUGH TANKS ARE POURING OUT OF SOVIET SHIPS IN SYRIAN PORTS TO REARM TWO DIVISIONS.

6. U.S. CITIZENS. LAST U.S. TOURISTS STRANDED IN EGYPT ARE EXPECTED TO LEAVE CAIRO BY BUS MORNING OF OCTOBER 19 FOR ALEXANDRIA TO EMBARK ABOARD GREEK SHIP WHICH WILL TAKE THEM TO GREECE.

7. ARAB REACTION TO USG RESUPPLY. DESPITE BROAD COVERAGE IN ARAB MEDIA OF THE USG RESUPPLY EFFORT, CRITICISM CONTINUED TO BE MUTED. IN CAIRO PARTICULARLY, MODERATION OF PRESS COMMENTARY WAS NOTEWORTHY.

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8. CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT OF U.S. RESUPPLY EFFORT. JOINING IN SPONSORING RESOLUTION BY SENATOR HUMPHREY, SIXTY-SEVEN SENATORS PROPOSED TODAY THAT SENATE SUPPORT CONTINUED SHIPMENTS OF PHANTOM AIRCRAFT AND OTHER U.S. MILITARY EQUIPMENT TO ISRAEL. SIMILAR HOUSE RESOLUTION WAS COSPONSORED BY 220 OF 435 MEMBERS. SECDEF SCHLESINGER TOLD AFL/CIO THAT U.S. AIRLIFT TO ISRAEL NOW JUST UNDER 1000

TONS PER DAY.

9. OIL. ROYAL COMMUNIQUE IN RIYADH, NOTING EARLIER RESOLUTION OF OIL MINISTERS IN KUWAIT, ANNOUNCED THAT SAUDI GOVERNMENT REDUCING PRODUCTION FOR OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER IMMEDIATELY BY 10 PERCENT. ALSO STATES THAT OIL SALES TO U.S. WILL STOP WITHIN A FEW DAYS IF THERE IS NO MODIFICATION OF U.S. MIDEAST POLICY AND RESUPPLY EFFORTS. EMBASSY KUWAIT QUOTES OIL MINISTER ATIQUI AS SAYING KUWAITI PRODUCTION DECREASES WILL BE APPLIED FIRST TO U.S. BUT AFTERWARDS (PRESUMABLY WHEN THERE ARE NO FURTHER SHIPMENTS TO THE U.S.) TO ALL OTHER CONSUMERS. MEANWHILE, ABU DHABI HAS ANNOUNCED IT IS CUTTING OFF ALL OIL SHIPMENTS TO U.S.

10. BANK OF AMERICA BEIRUT INCIDENT. NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUE WITH FOUR TERRORISTS HOLDING 20 OR MORE HOSTAGES, PERHAPS INCLUDING ONE AMERICAN, IN BEIRUT OFFICES OF BANK OF AMERICA (BOA). PARTICIPANTS IN NEGOTIATIONS ARE ALGERIAN AMBASSADOR AND OFFICIALS OF BOA, LEBANESE GOVERNMENT, AND PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION. LEBANESE OFFICIALS EXPRESS INCREASING OPTIMISM OVER OUTCOME. BOA OFFICERS IN U.S. ARE IN DIRECT CONTACT WITH THEIR REPRESENTATIVES IN BEIRUT AND HAVE NOT REVEALED THE NATURE OF CONCESSIONS WHICH THEY MAY BE PREPARED TO MAKE. DEMANDS OF TERRORISTS REPORTEDLY REMAIN: (1) 10 MILLION DOLS RANSOM; (2) FREE PASSAGE TO ALGERIA; (3) PERHAPS RELEASE OF 7 UNIDENTIFIED POLITICAL PRISONERS IN LEBANON; (4) 7 NEW HOSTAGES INCLUDING BOA OFFICIALS.

11. KOSYGIN IN CAIRO. SEMI-OFFICIAL EGYPTIAN NEWS AGENCY HAS CONFIRMED THAT KOSYGIN IS IN CAIRO AND REPORTS HE HAS HAD 3 LONG MEETINGS WITH SADAT. KISSINGER

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NOTE BY OC/T: POUCHED SUVA BANJUL CURACAO AND MARTINIQUE.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** WAR, FIGHTER AIRCRAFT, NAVAL SHIPS, MILITARY AIRLIFTS, UNCONVENTIONAL WARFARE, MEETINGS, HOSTAGES  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 19 OCT 1973  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, MOPS, XF, XI, EG, IS, US, UR, SY, (KOSYGIN, ALEKSEY), (SADAT, ANWAR)  
**To:** ALL POSTS MULTIPLE  
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